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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/592,907	06/13/2000	David William Balsdon	051481-5050	5487

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MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

EXAMINER

FOX, JOHN C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3753

DATE MAILED: 02/05/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Art Unit: 3753

This action is responsive to the communication filed January 21, 2003.

Applicant's remarks have been fully considered but are not deemed to be persuasive.

Applicant argues that the claim language "occlude the aperture" distinguishes over Kadner. However, this language was added by amendment and there is little guidance in the original specification as to what its scope and meaning is. Figure 5 shows O-ring 16 sealing the aperture by contact with the upper surface of the valve seat. There is no disclosure that the second portion of the pin seals, or even contacts, the inner surface of the aperture.

Therefore, it is reasonable to say that the portion 15 of Kadner "occludes" the valve seat aperture.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Fox at (703) 308-2595 or John.Fox@uspto.gov. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0861. The fax number for Art Unit 3753 is (703) 308-7765. The Supervisory Primary Examiner for Art Unit 3753 is Michael Buiz who can be reached at (703) 308-2580 or at Michael.Buiz@uspto.gov.

Serial Number: 09/592907

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Art Unit: 3753



JOHN FOX
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3753

jcf
February 3, 2003